(c) what has been the price pattern of pulses during the last three years; and

(d) what steps are being contemplated to make pulses available to the common people at reasonable prices in view of the record output?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) According to present assess ments, the total production of pulses during the year 1988-89 is expected to be in the range of 14.0—14.5 million tonnes.

(c) The Average Index Numbers of Wholesale Prices of Pulses (1970-71 = 100) during the years 1986, 1987 and 1988 (provisional) were 424.5, 463.4 and 627.1 respectively.

(d) All the States/Union Territories have been advised by the Department of Civil Supplies to include pulses for distribution through Fair Price Shops at reasonable prices. As per the re ports available, the State Governments of Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Harya na, Himahcal Pradesh, Punjab, Tamil Nadu, Tripura, Uttar Pradesh, Anda man & Nicobar Islands and Lakshad weep have included pulses among other items for distribution through Fair Price Shops on their own.

The State Governments have been advised from time to time to monitor the prices and availability of essential commodities including pulses.

Allegations against Manager of N.C.C.F.

1797. SHRI BIR BHADRA PRATAP SINGH: SHRI MOHINDER SINGH LATHER:

Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to refer to replies to Unstarred Question 996 and 1138 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 18th November, 1988 and state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item appearing in Nav Bharat Times, dated 10th January, 1989 under the caption "Aaropon" se Ghire Afsar Ko Tarraqqi";

(b) if so, whether it is a fact that N.C.C.F. has posted the said officials to the sensitive post of Chief Manager (Business) at Head Office despite the serious allegations have prima-facie proof against him; and

(c) if so, what are the reasons for not taking any administrative action against the officer concerned?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI D.L. BAITHA): (a) Yes, Sir.,

(b) The officer concerned has been transferred form the post of Chief Manager (Business).

(c) On the basis of the advice of the Central Vigillance Commission, major penalty proceedings are being initiated aginst him by the NCCF.

Irregularities in NCCF, Delhi

1798. SHIR BHAGATRAM MANHAR: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to refer to answer to Starred Question 465 given in the